

GERMANTOWN PARKS & RECREATION

2011 ADULT FALL SOFTBALL LEAGUE

RULES & BY-LAWS

Points of Emphasis are HIGHLIGHTED

ENTRY FEE: \$425 (plus non-resident fees)

NUMBER OF GAMES: 12 game regular season (10 game guarantee) plus tournament following season.

LEAGUE START DATE: September 8, 2011

LEAGUE CONTACT:

Kevin Weaver – 757-7379 (office) 751-5700 (fax) kweaver@germantown-tn.gov

FIELD HOTLINE (Rain Check) 751-KNOW

Schedule will be Posted and Updated at <http://www.germantown-tn.gov/index.aspx?page=489>

Each team must abide by all Amateur Softball Association (ASA) Rules, unless otherwise specified below..

1) TEAMS:

No team will be assured a slot in the league until the entry fee is received

- a) Teams shall have a limit of twenty (20) players per roster.
- b) **Players must be 18 years of age or older to participate.**
- c) **No player may be added to the roster after the fifth game.** New players must fill out a waiver release form and be added to the roster prior to the fifth game.
- d) A team shall not start a game with less than nine (9) players or finish a game with less than nine (9) players.
 - o For Men's games only, if a team begins with nine (9) players, they will not receive an out for the tenth spot in the order.
 - o If a team begins with eleven (11) players, and for some reason has to complete the game with ten (10), the 11th player's time at bat will be ruled an out.
 - o A forfeit will not be called if a team who started with at least nine (9) is unable to finish with nine (9), due to injury. An out will be recorded for any batter unable to hit.

EXCEPTION: If a team having only eight (8) players **agrees with the opposing team to start the game**, that team goes to bat and then becomes the "visiting" team to begin the first inning. **(The official team with enough players has the option of taking the win by forfeit)** If the first half inning ends and the team having eight (8) players does not have at least nine (9), the game ends with a forfeit. In order for this to take place, the team must have eight (8) players present.

2) COED TEAM RULES:

- a) **In order for an official game to take place**, a coed team must have at least nine (9) players present. This can be five (5) men with four (4) women, or four (4) men with five (5) women. For the 10th person in the order, you will take an automatic out. If playing with ten (10) and have an injured player or player unable to finish the game, an automatic out will be taken for that person, if unable to bat.
 - a. **If a team cannot finish with nine (9), due to an injury, player leaving, etc, the team with eight (8) will have to forfeit the game.**
- b) All batting positions must be alternated between men and women and that order must remain the entire game.
- c) A walk to a male batter will result in a two base award. **The next batter (a female) shall bat. With two outs, the female batter has the option to walk or bat.**
- d) All Recreation Coed teams will play with one size ball; each team must provide its own ASA approved 44 core max, 375lbs compression, 12" softballs. All softballs must be ASA stamped.
- e) All other Amateur Softball Association and above rules apply to coed league as well.
- f) All teams must play **AT LEAST** two (2) women in the infield (1st, 2nd, 3rd, SS) and **AT LEAST** two (2) women in the outfield (LF, LC, RC, RF) at all times during the game. The pitcher or catcher does not count as an infielder.

3) LINEUPS / SCORECARDS:

- a) Please have line-up cards filled out before game time!
 - o Team captains are responsible for supplying the plate umpire and scorekeeper with a copy of their line-up.

- b) All managers must list their team name at the top of the scorecard along with player numbers, **first and last name** on lineup cards. They must give the scorecard to the scorekeeper, who will keep the OFFICIAL BOOK.
- c) **For Men's Divisions ONLY:** All rostered players present for the game may be entered on the line-up and hit. This allows all players who show up to the game to hit/play. You do have the choice not to put them on the line-up.
- d) Players may only play for one team per division, meaning Coed, Men's Rec, Men's Church, and Men's Open divisions.
- e) If a player who is in the game is believed to not be on the roster, the game will continue, but then must be protested to the Parks & Recreation department the following day. There is a \$50 protest fee that must be submitted with the protest. The team manager must verify with that player by ID check, that he/she is who they say they are. If a player is found to have played in a game without being on the roster, it is an automatic forfeit for the team using an illegal player.

4) **HOME TEAM:**

- a) Home team will sit in the third base dugout, unless the team playing in the earlier game remains for the second game.
- b) Must provide someone to keep the official scorebook, in the event there is no "official" scorekeeper present.
- c) Home team will be listed 1st on the schedule.

5) **GAME PLAY:**

- a) For safety purposes, warm-ups will only be allowed in the outfield only.
- b) All games shall be seven (7) innings or one hour in length, whichever comes first.
- c) **RUN RULES: 20 runs ahead after 3 innings, 12 runs ahead after 4, and 10 ahead after 5 innings.**
- d) **No new inning will begin with two (2) minutes or less on the game clock (meaning the clock shows 1 on the board), unless a tie exist.** Tournament games will play the entire hour.
- e) **If a game ends in a tie, the "international tiebreaker rule" goes into play, meaning each team would start the next inning with a runner on second (the last out from previous inning), with no outs and a two (2) ball, one (1) strike count at the plate. Only ONE (1) extra inning will be played to attempt to break the tie. Tie games after the extra inning will result in a tie. Ties are reflected in the standings as 1/2 win, 1/2 loss (See 5-d)**
- f) Each team is required to provide two (2) clean game balls for play. Each team will hit their own balls. All softballs must be ASA approved, core 44 max 375lbs comp. 12" softballs and be ASA stamped.
 - a. If a team is found hitting an illegal ball, not meeting the above specifications, the umpire will issue a warning to the team and that will be sent in to my office for filing. A second offense will result the suspension of the manager for that team.
 - b. **A pitch height of twelve (12) feet will be permitted in Germantown league play. ASA rules indicated ten (10) feet pitch heights.**
- g) **HOME RUN LIMITS:** In all **Recreation Divisions** (including but not limited to coed and men) there will be a limit of four (4) home runs. In all **Open (Competitive) Divisions** the home run limit will be determined at the plate. Each team will decide the limit (with a minimum amount of four (4) home runs and a maximum of ten (10) home runs. The two limits will then be averaged to determine the home run limit for that game. For the purpose of this rule, a home run is defined as a ball hit over the perimeter fence.
 - a. In the Recreation divisions, all home runs hit over the limit will result in an out, with no runners advancing bases.
 - b. Runners are not required to round the bases on an out of the park home run. The batter-runner must touch first base.
- h) No nose rings, eyebrow rings, wrist-watches etc. (Umpire has discretion on jewelry)
- i) The Recreation Department will make every attempt to make up all rain out games.
- j) A team that forfeits two (2) league games without notice is subject to being dropped from the league and will **not participate in the tournament.** Please have courtesy and call the Sports Coordinator's office and the opposing team if you are aware that you will not have enough players for your game at 757-7379. No exceptions!
- k) No stealing allowed.
- l) A double base shall be used at first base in all divisions of play. (Unless a d. base is not available) Please refer to ASA rulebook for specifics on the double base.

7) **UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT:**

- a) Uniforms are required to participate in the league. Teams failing to secure uniforms could forfeit games until they have them. All uniforms must be the same matching base color with a legal number. (No written or taped numbers)
- b) Metal spikes are **not allowed.**
- c) The Parks & Recreation Department will supply scorebooks, line-up cards, umpires, bases, field lighting and trophies. All other cost of equipment will be the responsibility of each team.
- a) Only those bats which have met 2004 ASA testing standard will be permitted for play. (www.asasoftball.com)

8) **PLAYER CONDUCT:**

- a) **Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated by any team, player, or coach.**
- b) **THERE WILL BE ZERO TOLERANCE** for fighting, "taking out" a player, confronting an umpire, intentionally throwing at a batter. Any person ejected from a game for fighting will serve an automatic three (3) game suspension and must meet with the Sports Coordinator before being reinstated.
- c) Player(s) ejected from a game will serve an automatic one (1) game suspension effective immediately. Players with multiple ejections will serve multiple game suspensions and/or banishment from the league. No loud profanity; smack talk or baiting players.

9) **COURTESY RUNNERS:**

- a) **One (1) Courtesy Runner per half inning** must be entered before the first pitch to succeeding batter. The runner may be any player in the batting order or any player on the roster. There are no exceptions to this.
 - 1) Courtesy runner is in the game when the base is touched.
 - 2) In the event a courtesy runner is on base when their turn at bat comes up, he/she will be declared out on base, but may take his/her turn at bat.
 - 3) Coed teams must use same sex runners.

10) **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- a) **Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in all City owned parks.** Any team/player found in violation of this policy will receive one warning, documented in the Parks & Recreation office. A second violation by that team will result in suspension from the league. No league fees will be refunded for this offense.
- b) **No smoking on the field or in the dugout.**
- c) All protests must be lodged in writing within 24 hours to the Parks and Recreation office. **A \$50.00 protest fee must accompany each protest. Judgment calls by the umpire are not subject to protest.**

11) **SCHEDULES:**

- a) Schedules will be available via email and standings will be posted on the City's webpage.
- b) <http://www.germantown-tn.gov/index.aspx?page=489>
- c) Schedules will not be released until all teams participating have paid registration fees in full.

GERMANTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION

SOFTBALL TEAM ROSTER/WAIVER FORM

TEAM: _____ LEAGUE: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Each player must read and sign the roster/waiver form to be eligible for play. Any team added to the roster must complete and submit a waiver release form to the Parks & Recreation office prior to participating. No player may be added after the halfway point in the season of league play. (See rules)

WAIVER: With my signature in this form I assume all risks and hazards incidental to the conduct of the program. I do hereby release, absolve indemnity and hold harmless the Germantown Parks and Recreation Department, the City, the organizers, the sponsors, and/or all of them. In case of injury, I likewise waive all claims against the City of Germantown, the organizers, the sponsors, or any supervisors or coaches appointed by them.

[illegible]

TEAM MANAGER DAY PHONE

ADDRESS _____ ZIP CODE: _____

TEAMS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE UNTIL ROSTERS ARE COMPLETE AND SUBMITTED.
ROSTERS MAY BE FAXED TO 751-5700 OR MAILED TO:

GERMANTOWN PARKS & RECREATION
2276 WEST STREET
GERMANTOWN, TENNESSEE 38138